

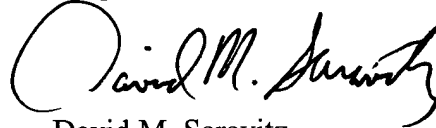
### REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9, 11-13, 17, 18, 23-26, and 29-34 have been amended to more clearly define the invention under United States practice and are purely formal in nature. The amendments to the claims are fully supported by the specification and original claims, and therefore, do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1-34 are pending.

Please enter this amendment prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

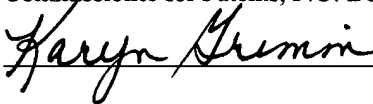


David M. Saravitz  
Registration No. 55,593

**Customer No. 00826**  
**ALSTON & BIRD LLP**  
Bank of America Plaza  
101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000  
Charlotte, NC 28280-4000  
Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200  
Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 387070535 US  
Date of Deposit May 20, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



---